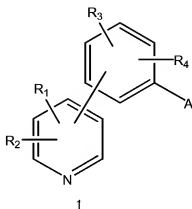


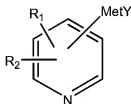
LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for the preparation of compound of formula 1,

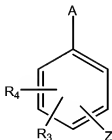


in which a solution containing a compound of formula 2 is added dropwise to a solution containing a compound of formula 3

2



3



in which:

- Met represents Mg or Zn,
- Y represents Cl, Br, I or acetoxy,
- Z represents I, Br, Cl, triflate, sulphonate, phosphate,
- R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, which are the same as one another or different, represent hydrogen, a linear and/or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, and/or an aryl, and/or a heteroaryl, or R₁ and R₂ and/or R₃ and R₄, taken together, form a C₃-C₈ ring, an aryl and/or a heteroaryl,
- A represents -COR₅, where R₅ represents hydrogen, a linear and/or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, and/or an aryl, and/or a heteroaryl, or

- A represents $-\text{CR}_5(\text{OR}_6)(\text{OR}_7)$ where R_5 has the meaning described above and R_6 and R_7 , which are the same as one another or different, represent a linear and/or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, and/or an aryl, and/or a heteroaryl, or R_6 and R_7 , joined together, represent a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ alkyl or alkenyl, in the presence of catalytic systems based on palladium or nickel.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein compound 2 is prepared by reaction of the corresponding halogeno-pyridine with a catalytic quantity of alkyl halide, in the presence of an at least stoichiometric quantity of magnesium.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein 100 moles of the halogeno-pyridine are reacted with 10-20 moles of alkyl halide and 100-120 moles of magnesium.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the alkyl halide is a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ alkyl chloride or bromide.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the alkyl halide is ethyl bromide or isopropyl bromide or chloride.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein compound 2 is prepared by reaction of the corresponding halogeno-pyridine with an at least stoichiometric quantity of an alkyl-magnesium halide.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the alkyl-magnesium halide is a chloride or a bromide of a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ alkyl-magnesium salt, ~~preferably an ethyl or isopropyl magnesium salt.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the palladium and/or the nickel are used in quantities of 0.01-10 moles, ~~preferably 0.05-2 moles,~~ per 100 moles of compound 2.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the solvent is an ethereal solvent, ~~preferably THF,~~ 1,2 dimethoxyethane, and/or 1,1-diethoxymethane, or a THF/toluene mixture.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein it is performed at a temperature of between 20 and 100°C, ~~preferably between 40 and 80°C.~~

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein it is performed in the presence of phosphines and/or phosphites.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphines and/or phosphites are used in a molar ratio of metal:phosphine/phosphite of between 1:1 and 1:6.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphines are selected from triaryl phosphines, diarylalkyl phosphines, trialkyl phosphines, and bidentate phosphines.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein palladium is used in the form of complexes with phosphines, ~~preferably as Pd(PPh₃)₄].~~

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein palladium is used in the salt form, ~~generally in acetate or chloride form,~~ in combination with a phosphine; ~~preferably triphenyl phosphine.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein nickel is used in the form of complexes with phosphines, ~~preferably bidentate phosphines.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein it is performed in the presence of zinc salts, ~~preferably ZnCl₂, ZnBr₂ or Zn(OAc)₂.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 17, wherein the zinc salt is used in quantities of 25-120 moles, ~~preferably 35-70 moles,~~ per 100 moles of compound 2.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 18 in which Met is magnesium, wherein 0.01-0.1 moles of palladium and 40-70 moles of zinc are used per 100 moles of compound 2.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 17, wherein the molar ratio between palladium and compound 2 is less than 1:100.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein compound 2 is used in a dynamic deficiency relative to the zinc salt.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein 0.5-1.2 moles; ~~preferably 1 mole,~~ of compound 2 is used per 1 mole of compound 3.

23 – 24. Cancelled.

25. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the chloride or bromide of a C₁-C₈ alkyl-magnesium salt is an ethyl or isopropyl magnesium salt.

26. (New) A method according to Claim 8, wherein the palladium and/or the nickel are used in quantities of 0.05-2 moles per 100 moles of compound 2.

27. (New) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the ethereal solvent is THF.

28. (New) A method according to Claim 10, wherein it is performed at a temperature of between 40 and 80°C.

29. (New) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the phosphine is $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$.
30. (New) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the palladium salt is palladium acetate or palladium chloride.
31. (New) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the phosphine is triphenyl phosphine.
32. (New) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the phosphines are bidentate phosphines.
33. (New) A method according to Claim 17, wherein it is performed in the presence of ZnCl_2 , ZnBr_2 or $\text{Zn}(\text{OAc})_2$.
34. (New) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the zinc salt is used in quantities of 35-70 moles per 100 moles of compound 2.
35. (New) A method according to Claim 22, wherein 1 mole of compound 2 is used per 1 mole of compound 3.